**IN THE CLAIMS:**

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with <u>underlining</u> and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8-12, 14-36, 38, 39, 41-45, 47, 48 and 50 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for processing physical distribution information, said method comprising:

receiving and registering schedule information <u>from a customer member,</u> ~~regarding forms of~~<u>corresponding to availability status information of the customer member for</u> receiving a package addressed to ~~a~~<u>the</u> customer member~~, from the customer member~~, the schedule information comprising ~~at least one of the forms of receiving the package addressed to the customer member~~<u>availability status information of the customer member</u> for each of a plurality of days within a predetermined period;

~~when a shipment request is received from a sender of a package,~~ determining a delivery form with reference to ~~at least~~ the <u>registered</u> schedule information of the ~~receiver registered in said receiving and registering if the receiver is a~~ customer member<u>, when a shipment request is received from a sender of a package</u>; and

~~when the delivery form determined in said determining involves a movement of the package,~~ generating delivery request information for a distributor in accordance with the determined delivery form<u>, when the determined delivery form involves a movement of the package</u>.


2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
~~when the delivery form determined in said determining involves a movement of the package,~~ registering scheduled delivery information in the schedule information of the ~~receiver~~<u>customer member</u>.


3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
sending the distributor, information regarding the <u>determined</u> delivery form ~~determined in said determining~~ before starting to deliver the package.

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4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a delivery completion notice comprising receiving status data from the distributor.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 4, further comprising:
giving <u>the customer member receiving the package</u> a predetermined point ~~to the receiver~~ <u>to reward a correct registration of the schedule information of the customer member receiving the package</u> when the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicates the delivery has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the <u>determined</u> delivery form.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 4, further comprising:
giving <u>the customer member receiving the package</u> a predetermined point ~~to the receiver~~ <u>to reward a correct registration of the schedule information of the customer member receiving the package</u> when the <u>determined</u> delivery form ~~determined in said determining~~ indicates that delivery to a home of the ~~receiver~~ <u>customer member receiving</u> ~~of~~ the package and the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicate that receiving has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the <u>determined</u> delivery form.

7. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
receiving and registering information regarding a fixed delivery charge from the distributor after the package is received by the distributor.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the <u>determined</u> delivery form is determined as <u>that of</u> undeliverable ~~in said determining~~.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
sending the sender <u>of the package</u> a notice comprising information regarding a deliverable date when the <u>determined</u> delivery form is ~~determined~~ <u>that of</u> ~~as~~ undeliverable ~~in said determining~~.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
giving <u>the customer member receiving the package</u> a predetermined point ~~to the receiver~~

to reward a correct registration of the schedule information of the customer member receiving the package  when the determined delivery form is ~~determined as~~that of forwarding or keeping ~~in said determining~~the package.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, ~~wherein in said~~further comprising generating~~, when the delivery form is determined as forwarding or keeping in said determining,~~delivery request information addressed to the distributor ~~is generated by~~using forwarding destination information or keeping place information registered ~~for~~by the ~~receiver~~customer member in advance, when the determined delivery form is that of forwarding or keeping the package.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
receiving and registering information of a specified customer member from the customer member, the specified customer member being different from the customer member, and
wherein~~, in said determining,~~ when the ~~receiver~~customer member to receive the package is not available for receiving and the specified customer member is registered ~~for the receiver~~by the customer member, to receive the package on behalf of the ~~receiver~~customer member, the schedule information for the specified customer member is referenced.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
when a delivery request to a non-member, who is to receive the package, is received from a sender of said package, registering information of the non-member included in the delivery request as provisional customer member information;
sending a customer member registration request to the non-member; and
sending information registered as the provisional customer member information to the non-member when membership registration is requested from the non-member.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~in~~said ~~receiving and registering,~~the schedule information ~~regarding one of the forms of receiving the package addressed to the customer member~~is received as a predetermined template selection instruction from the customer member.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said

determining <u>of a delivery form</u> comprises sending a schedule input request to the ~~receiver~~ <u>customer member receiving the package</u> ~~if~~<u>when</u> the schedule information of the ~~receiver~~ <u>customer member</u> indicates the schedule information is not fixed.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said determining <u>a delivery form</u> comprises sending the sender a notice indicating scheduling in progress.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  A method for processing physical distribution requests, said method comprising:

sending ~~a central server~~ a delivery request of a package <u>to a central server</u>, the delivery request specifying at least a receiver <u>of the package</u>; and

receiving a result notice of delivery scheduling~~,~~ comprising information that the package is undeliverable, from the central server that determined the delivery scheduling based on at least schedule information, which has been <u>pre-</u>registered ~~for~~<u>by</u> the receiver and comprises a time range that the receiver is unavailable for receiving packages, before starting to deliver the package.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  A <u>computer readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method of</u>~~program embodied on a medium that controls a computer to~~processing physical distribution information <u>performed by a computer,</u> ~~said program~~<u>the method</u> comprising:

receiving schedule information~~, regarding one of a plurality of forms of~~ <u>corresponding to availability status information of a customer member for</u> receiving a package addressed to ~~a~~<u>the</u> customer member, from a terminal of the customer member, and registering the schedule information in a storage device, the schedule information comprising ~~at least one of the forms of receiving the package addressed to the customer member~~<u>availability status information of the customer member</u> for each of a plurality of days within a predetermined period;

~~when a shipment request is received from a terminal of a sender of a package,~~ determining a delivery form with reference to ~~at least~~ the schedule information of the ~~receiver~~ <u>customer member as</u> stored in the storage device ~~if the receiver is a customer member~~, <u>when a shipment request is received from a terminal of a sender of a package</u>; and

~~when the delivery form determined in said determining involves a movement of the package,~~ generating delivery request information for a distributor in accordance with the

determined delivery form, when the determined delivery form involves a movement of the package.

19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)  The ~~program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

~~when the delivery form determined in said determining involves a movement of the package,~~ registering scheduled delivery information in the schedule information of the ~~receiver~~ customer member when the determined delivery form involves a movement of the package.

20. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED)  The ~~program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

sending the distributor information regarding the determined delivery form ~~determined in said determining~~ before starting to deliver the package.

21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  The ~~program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

receiving a delivery completion notice comprising receiving status data from a computer of the distributor.

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  The ~~program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:

giving a predetermined point to the ~~receiver~~ customer member when the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicates the delivery has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the determined delivery form.

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  The ~~program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:

giving a predetermined point to the receiver when the delivery form determined in said determining indicates that delivery to a home of the ~~receiver~~ customer member receiving ~~of~~ the package and the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicate that receiving has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the determined delivery form.

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

receiving and registering information regarding a fixed delivery charge from a computer of the distributor after the package is received by the distributor.

25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, wherein the determined delivery form is determined ~~as~~ as that of undeliverable ~~in said determining~~.

26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

sending the sender of the package a notice comprising information regarding a deliverable date when the delivery form is determined as undeliverable in said determining.

27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

giving a predetermined point to the ~~receiver~~ customer member when the determined delivery form is ~~determined as~~ that of forwarding or keeping the package ~~in said determining~~.

28. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, ~~wherein in said~~ further comprising generating, ~~when the delivery form is determined as forwarding or keeping in said determining,~~ delivery request information addressed to the distributor ~~is generated~~ by using forwarding destination information or keeping place information registered for the ~~receiver~~ customer member in advance, when the determined delivery form is that of forwarding or keeping the package.

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

receiving and registering information of a specified customer member from the terminal of the customer member, the specified customer member being different from the customer member, and

wherein, ~~in said determining,~~ when the ~~receiver~~ customer member receiving the package is not available for receiving and the specified customer member is registered ~~for the receiver~~ by the customer member to receive the package on behalf of the ~~receiver~~ customer member, the

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schedule information for the specified customer member is referenced.

30. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

when a delivery request to a non-member, who is to receive the package, is received from a terminal of the sender of a package, registering information of the non-member included in the delivery request as provisional customer member information;

sending a customer member registration request to the non-member; and

sending information registered as the provisional customer member information to a terminal of the non-member when membership registration is requested from the terminal of the non-member.

31. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, wherein ~~in said receiving and registering,~~ the schedule information ~~regarding one of the forms of receiving the package addressed to the customer member~~ is received as a predetermined template selection instruction from the terminal of the customer member.

32. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 18, wherein said determining a delivery form comprises sending a schedule input request to the ~~receiver~~ customer member when the schedule information of the ~~receiver~~ customer member indicates the schedule information is not fixed.

33. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~program~~ computer readable medium as set forth in claim 31, wherein said determining a delivery form comprises sending the sender a notice indicating scheduling in progress.

34. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for processing physical distribution information, comprising:

a schedule register, which receives and registers schedule information from a terminal of a customer member, ~~regarding forms of~~ the schedule information corresponding to availability status information of the customer member for receiving a package addressed to a customer member, ~~from a terminal of the customer member~~, the schedule information comprising ~~at least one of the forms of receiving the package addressed to~~ availability status information of the customer member for each of a plurality of days within a predetermined period;

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a determining unit, which determines a delivery form with reference to ~~at least the~~ the registered schedule information of the ~~receiver registered by said schedule register when the receiver is a~~ customer member, when a shipment request is received from a terminal of a sender of a package; and

a delivery request generator, which generates delivery request information for a distributor in accordance with the determined delivery form when the determined delivery form ~~determined by said determining unit~~ involves a movement of the package.

35. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

a second register, which registers scheduled delivery information in the schedule information of the receiver when the determined delivery form ~~determined by said determining unit~~ involves a movement of the package.

36. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

a transmitter, which sends the distributor information regarding the determined delivery ~~form determined by said determining unit~~ before starting to deliver the package.

37. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED)  The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

a receiving unit, which receives a delivery completion notice comprising receiving status data from a computer of the distributor.

38. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  The apparatus as set forth in claim 37, further comprising:

means for granting a predetermined point to the ~~receiver~~ customer member receiving the package, when the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicates the delivery has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the determined delivery form.

39. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  The apparatus as set forth in claim 37, further comprising:

means for granting a predetermined point to the ~~receiver~~ customer member receiving the

package, when the determined delivery form ~~determined by said determining unit~~ indicates that delivery to a home of the ~~receiver~~ customer member receiving ~~of~~ the package and the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicates that receiving has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the determined delivery form.

40. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED)  The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

a receiving unit, which receives and registers information regarding a fixed delivery charge from a computer of the distributor after the package is received by the distributor.

41. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein the determined delivery form is determined as that of undeliverable ~~by said determining unit~~.

42. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

a transmitter, which sends the sender a notice comprising information regarding a deliverable date when the determined delivery form is determined as that of undeliverable ~~by said determining unit~~.

43. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

means for granting a predetermined point to the ~~receiver~~ customer member receiving the package, when the determined delivery form is ~~determined as~~ that of forwarding or keeping ~~by said determining unit~~ the package.

44. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein, ~~when the delivery form is determined as forwarding or keeping by said determining unit,~~ said delivery request generator generates delivery request information addressed to the distributor by using forwarding destination information or keeping place information registered ~~for the receiver~~ by the customer member in advance, when the determined delivery form is that of forwarding or keeping the package.

45. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

a receiving unit, which receives and registers information of a specified customer member from the terminal of the customer member, the specified customer member being different from the customer member, and

wherein, when the ~~receiver~~ customer member receiving the package is not available for receiving and the specified customer member is registered ~~for the receiver~~by the customer member to receive the package on behalf of the ~~receiver~~customer member, said determining unit references the schedule information for the specified customer member.

46. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

means for registering information of a non-member, who is to receive the package, included in a delivery request to the non-member as provisional customer member information when the delivery request to the non-member is received from a terminal of a sender of the package;

a transmitter, which sends a customer member registration request to the non-member; and

a transmitter, which sends information registered as the provisional customer member information to a terminal of the non-member when membership registration is requested from the terminal of the non-member.

47. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein said schedule register receives the schedule information ~~regarding one of the forms of receiving the package addressed to the customer member~~ as a predetermined template selection instruction from the terminal of the customer member.

48. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein said determining unit comprises a transmitter, which sends a schedule input request to the ~~receiver~~ ~~if~~customer member when the schedule information of the ~~receiver~~ customer member indicates the schedule information is not fixed.

49. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein said determining unit comprises a transmitter, which sends the sender a notice indicating scheduling in progress.

50.    (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method comprising:

receiving schedule information for each of a plurality of days within a predetermined period, from a member, the schedule information ~~regarding forms~~corresponding to availability status of the member ~~of~~for receiving a package addressed to the member;

determining ~~one of the forms with reference to~~a delivery form based upon the schedule information received and forwarding the determined delivery form to a sender of the package upon a request from the sender; and

generating delivery request information for a distributor in accordance with the determined delivery form.